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California GARDEN

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Lily Pool and Tropical Gardens, Balboa Park

JANUARY
1940

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Gardening, the Art of Living

By ALICE M. CLARK

Gardening embodies not only the art of living, but the art of living long. Life insurance companies should subsidize gardeners. Cast your glance at a lively gathering where Miss Sessions, Mr. A. D. Robinson, Mr. Morley, and Mr. Marston, marshalled by our own Mrs. Greer hold forth, and you can see why old Father Time gives up and hobbles off to find a group whose avocation gives them more leisure in which to grow old. And then just for good measure, I give you Mr. John McLaren, in his early nineties, still planting redwoods at Golden Gate Park.

But to get back to this art of living. One sure test of success in it, is happiness. Did you ever know a sad floriculturist? Impossible. He must be an optimist to take up the hobby of growing plants, anyway. If it isn't one new pest it's another; if it isn't a drought it's a flood; if it isn't heat, it's a freeze or perhaps all together. Your successsful gardener props up the survivors, noting just how, when and why they pulled through and plans a new scheme for tomorrow. He deals with living things and is so busy keeping up with them that he is doubly alert himself and has no time to bewail his losses. With this complete absorption, comes happiness.

The art of living is expressed not only by one's pleasure in a special project, but in one's attitude toward the world and one's neighbors. And that is just where gardening has its finest influence. One cannot plant alone. One must compare notes and see the results of others, to improve and grow. So we learn to circulate. An interest in gardening will lift the latch of any gates which enclose flowering vistas, and make an instant contact and bond of understanding with the owner of that particular bower. For each is eager to learn from the other.

We not only know the fellowship of individuals, but of crowds. We go to lectures and flower shows. How many, precious and lasting, are the friendships started there! Despite all the stir and bustle of a show opening, what a jolly good-natured crowd it always is. All are on the same level; friends in a common cause.

We have our garden and our friends, so surely our happiness is complete. But no, it brings with it one more urge; that of sharing. Without this impulse, the art of living is not fulfilled, but all gardeners have it. Nature, herself, is so prodigal that we cannot but be likewise and great is our pleasure when we find someone who wishes to receive what we have to give. Small or large, rare or common, every plant has a place, so every man with a surplus is bound to have the joy of filling another's needs. It brings the satisfaction of usefulness.

With all this business of doing, mingling and giving, gardeners are hourly in touch with nature. We see cause and effect over and over. The kind of seeds we plant are always the sort that come up. To be sure, a few weeds pop out too, but we know they were not in our scheme of things, so out they come while we proceed with the plan. We begin to feel the strength of the soil, its steadiness reaches within us, we catch the tune of life—deep down. The turmoil of the world is quited and we not only feel the art of living but catch a glimpse of the joy of being. Let's all be gardeners!

Alice M. Clark.

Flower Arrangements

Here is a selected list of the best books available at the San Diego Public Library, Business Department, on how to make the most of the flowers from your garden.

Cary, Mrs. Katherine T. & Merrell, Mrs. Nellie—Arranging flowers throughout the year. 1934.

Mrs. Cary sets up a flower arrangement and explains what are its good points. Her designs fall into three classes — Japanese, massed and line.

Conway, John Gregory & Hiatt, Elinor W.—Flowers east-west. 1938.

Superbly illustrated with almost 100 photographic studies of actual arrangements — a very interesting book.

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John Morley's Own Oak Tree

By ARTHUR M. SHOVEN

Balboa Park saw the high honor paid its veteran superintendent and builder, when the Floral Association dedicated on December 16th an oak tree that shall stand through the years, a memorandum within a monument.

The tree lifts its full rounded top some twenty feet above a sunny plot of grass in front of the Education Building. Beneath, a native stone is set with a bronze marker inscribed:

In Honor of
John G. Morley
Horticulturist
Balboa Park Builder
1911-1939
San Diego Floral Association

President Mary Greer's opening remarks were an appropriate resume of Mrs. Morley's Park experience. She stated that the association had long desired to recognize this remarkable career and said, in closing "We dedicate this stout oak to sturdy John Morley."

The program continued with remarks in like vein. George Marston felt that the vigorous character of the tree served to emphasize the resolution and the strength of Mr. Morley's work. The Oak tree is the pride and glory of English people and their poets have made it renowned and quoted from 'The Song of the Brave Oak that has Stood in a Green Lawn.' He continued and concluded with the hope that the tree should carry on through many generations, a growing monument to the man and an exhibit of the gratitude of the people for his work.

Julius Wangenheim stated how well chosen was this Coast Live Oak for the occasion as it remains the same summer or winter, in rain or sunshine while other trees are stripped of their leaves, and drew a symbolic picture related to 'our' affections for this worker. "The test of a well spent life lies in the fact that one's city is better for one's having lived in it. It should be a great solace to Mr. Morley in sickness and health to know that he has done this in such a prominent way."

Robert R. McLean came to San Diego in 1912 to be kept awake by the blasting in Balboa Park. He came to know the reason and to appreciate the thorough job of planting that was being done. "I consider this park one of the finest of its kind in the state of California," he said. "Planting here appeals to all citizens and in all my visits to the park, my thoughts are always of the builder, John Morley."

W. Allen Perry, director of the park, said Mr. Morley chose, rather than to do an ordinary landscaping of a park, to build stately and that his Great Art would unquestionably be an inspiration to the people who are to come.

Roland Stewart Hoyt, editor of the **California Garden,** as a student in an eastern university, knew of this park, and its development, almost unique in size, concept and relation to population. "When I came to San Diego some fifteen years past, I met the man who was carrying out this great ideal. I found an almost impossible horticultural problem being handled with intelligence and dogged perseverance. As a landscape architect, I like to believe I am a better gardener for having known Mr. Morley and his ways with plants."

Senator LeRoy A. Wright was one of the first to serve as park commissioner and told of some of the difficulties in the beginning; how, from time to time, the board reached into its several pockets for a dollar to help necessary work along.

John Morley concluded by telling the story of this tree; how it was grown from an acorn he had gathered in Griffith Park in Los Angeles about the year 1906; how it was raised as a stripling in Elysian Park there and came to San Diego to be set in the Golden Hills

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TASSEL SPURGE, A NATIVE ACALYPHA

Once,, when I was speaking about growing our native shrubs, Miss Kate Sessions asked me if I had found any that were ever-blooming. At that time I knew but one, the Native Savory which has been mentioned in earlier numbers of this magazine, but now I can add another species, the Tassel Spurge, **Acalypha californica**. Markedly different from the species of **Acalypha** brought into cultivation from the Old World tropics, this native has the advantages of being entirely hardy in this region and of being very drouth resistant. It grows as a small, spreading shrub, often clinging to cracks on the faces of bluffs or road cuts and should find a place for itself in rock gardens.

My first plant of the Tassel Spurge was a transplant from the wild, and it grew quite well. I tried to root cuttings from it, but without success until the spring months came—then I had no further trouble. I have two plants growing in my yard at present, one on top of a pile of rocks which I call my rock garden, and the other near the house where it competes with a Pepper Tree and with well-developed shrubs of **Eugenia** and **Ligustrum.** Neither plant receives much water nor other care, but both have been growing and b l o o m i n g throughout the year.

The flowers are not showy, the staminate ones being grouped in red spikes about an inch long, and the pistillate ones are mostly clustered in feathery tufts at the ends of the branches. These reddish flowers coupled with the brown bark of the twigs and the red margins to the leaves give the plant a bronze-green appearance at all times. The fruits are small lobed capsules which explode when mature.

We, in San Diego, are uniquely situated for bringing this plant into use in cultivation. It is fairly common through our foothills between the 1000 and 1500 foot levels and reaches its northern limit in the vicinity of Ramona and Bernardo. It also occurs in desert canyons near Mountain Palm Springs and

ranges south from there into Mexico. But nowhere else in its range is there a city where it might be developed into a permanent addition to the gardens of the world. We have an opportunity and a duty.

Frank F. Gander,
Curator of Botany,
Natural History
Museum, Balboa Park

Living Memories

Lily-of-the-Valley

Sometimes we have a keen yearning for the beloved lily-of-the-valley of some remembered garden, but there are always satisfying substitutes in our own California gardens.

Some May morning when you are walking in the garden, you are sure that the fragrance of the lily-of-the-valley is greeting you but upon further wandering, you will find that the pleasing perfume comes from the yellow nodding bells of **Mahernia verticillata** or honeybells. This South African subshrub with its vivid, finely cut foliage is a most desirable drapery for a steep slope and the odor is a fine substitute for the sweet aroma of the lily-of-the-valley. There is one disappointing feature in the plant. Sometimes for some unexplainable reason, an individual suddenly turns brown as if scorched. However, new plants are readily started from cuttings in the summer.

Another reminder of the lily-of-the-valley is the beautiful white bloom of the **Clethra arborea,** from Madiera, known as the lily-of-the-valley tree. It grows to a height of fifteen or twenty feet, has shining green leaves and clumps of lily-of-the-valley-like blossoms in the spring. This tree will stand only a few degrees of frost and likes a peaty, sandy, lime-free soil. Our small tree although only five tall, blossomed abundantly this year, two years after transplanting, and promises to be a very attractive tree.

Katherine V. Lewis.

Local Garden Reports Vitamin B1

By A. H. FETTER

Horticulture is being served by Vitamin B1. To what extent and by what means was my purpose in running experiments with suitable checks. Results to date are positive and I offer them for what they indicate. This growth stimulating substance may now be obtained from most seed houses and nurserymen. It comes in crystalline form or in solution, with directions usually indicated on the label. I used crystals.

A list of plants used in running these tests includes camellia, gardenia, roses, gerberia, anemone, larkspur, stocks, calla, watsonia, leucocoryne, daffodil, salpiglossis, dutch-iris and cineraria.

In order to secure a direct comparison, a certain number were marked for treatment while other plants were not treated. All, however, received the same care in watering, cultivation, and fertilizing.

Referring to the above list of selections for trial, there has elapsed sufficient time only for six applications on a weekly schedule and eight for roses, camellia and gardenia on a four day basis. Water is used between all applications of the stimulant.

Three phases are under observation, namely: the ultimate effect on growth, flowering and vigor of established plants; the effect in transplanting; the effect on seed sown in flats. Results to date in the first phase are not so positive, which is not altogether unexpected as it naturally takes some time for such an infinitesimal quantity of the Vitamin as contained in the solution, to reach fully to the root system of established woody plants. Moreover it must take some time for the roots to react to the new stimulus and begin reaching out for food. That is why we are cautioned not to expect results after only a few applications.

However, after the eighth application to seven roses, there was noticeable a slight improvement in foliage, while three roses, climbing Talisman, Signora and Condessa Sastoga have increased the size of their blooms appreciably. One Signora rose after the tenth treatment on the four day interval has put out two blooms which measure five inches and five and one-quarter inches respectively. Conservatively, these blooms are fifty percent larger and much fuller than former blooms from the same bush.

Two treated callas in a group of eight are, after six treatments, forging ahead of the check plants in height and lustre of foliage. Four gerberia plants out of eleven treated have died, evidently due, not to the Vitamin, but to an excess of total moisture as called for in directions. These plants will not put up with a soaked soil as all gardeners know and it is my belief we may credit this failure to too much enthusiasm for quick results.

Camellia, now blooming, and gardenia show no appreciable results to date. This also applies to stocks, larkspur and cineraria after six applications.

In transplanting young plants from the flat to beds, the results have been quick, definite and altogether satisfactory. This phase evidently will show the gardener more quickly what the stimulant will do. I have always had difficulty in setting out young salpiglossis plants and in spite of greatest care, mortality has been high, probably due to root shock. One month ago I set out two dozen of these plants. They were chopped out of a flat in the usual way and brought home from the nursery. Before disturbing them again, they were sprinkled lightly with the standard Vitamin solution. They were then set out in the usual way in mid-day sun at 85 degrees temperature, but watered with solution. There was no wilting nor other signs of distress even in that hot sun. At present all are doing well and I am firmly convinced the Vitamin

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COMPLICATIONS and COMMENT

Call this chitter, but not tattle—call it it gossip, call it prattle—
But whate'er may be its name, call it fun—
This garden game!

General directions for planting roses may be given as follows: "The rose should be planted in a hole that will allow the roots plenty of room. It is a mistake to cramp the roots or to plant in a hole that has poor drainage. Any broken roots should be cut off and any suspicious galls should be entirely removed. The rose bush should be set down to the first fork so that the bud union will be covered. Tree roses should be planted at about the same depth as in the nursery, allowing for some settling. The soil should be firmed about each plant with the foot, but not enough to injure the roots. Watering at planting time is advisable. If a rose bush should arrive badly dried out, the whole bush should be left in water over night. ***When the rose bush is dug in the nursery, part of its root system will be lost and therefore it is important to cut back the canes so that the roots will not have to much top to support until they have again established themselves. The nurseryman may have cut back the canes before shipping, but in many cases pruning has to be done after planting. The canes should be cut back and thinned so that there will be about three canes six or eight inches long on a first-grade, two-year-old bush. All weak or slender growth should be taken out.'

—R.R.M.

PALMS

The very large Phoenix Canariensis in many gardens about the city with their large and very rough trunks are objectional to a well kept garden. If the common and thrifty sword fern roots are planted when small over the trunks they will soon establish themselves and make the trunk a living column of beauty. Not only the thrifty sword ferns but the Maiden hair ferns on the north side will flourish. Also several kinds of small growing succulents and the many sorts of Echeveria will make a very attractive decoration. The common Echeveria glauca has been a great success in several places in San Diego, about the base of such places. Every old palm trunk in Honolulu is completely covered with growing ferns of many kinds. E. H.

THE WAY OF A FAN

I was always fortunate enough to be interested in some hobby. During the early days I collected butterflies and stamps; later on I became interested in athletics and music and for the last 25 years I added the raising of dahlias to my routine. I came to the conclusion, years ago, that the dahlia culture is one of the most fascinating hobbies in existence and to this very moment my opinion has not been changed.

I admit that during recent years my enthusiasm somewhat dampened at the end of a season, no doubt due to the fact that I raise more plants than my spare hours really permit. When the last clump is dug in the fall, my decision usually is to pass the season entirely the coming year or, at least reduce the number of plants considerably.

Strange to say, many of my dahlia friends absolutely agree with me in that respect, but stranger still when spring comes around my friends and I find a thousand good reasons for changing our minds, and not only are the same number of dahlias planted as the year before, but in addition, some of the choicest and latest varieties.

At the present moment the 1940 dahlia season is several months away. I am still undecided what I shall do, but my friends are willing to bet 100 to 1 that before long I shall once more regain my enthusiasm and grow more dahlias than ever. Quien sabe?—M.C.P.

PATRONIZE Our Advertisers

IN THE CORNER

I was appalled, recently, on passing the Civic Center, to find that, reversing the old saying, I was unable to see the trees for the forest —that forest of green sticks that must have been planted by some stern disciplinarian among gardeners. Each little shrub tied up firmly to a huge unyielding support; "We'll show you whether you're going to lop over in a beautiful curve and arch your branches. What! You say it's your nature to do so? You're going to get over it, right now."

The pity of it! Even the **Pyracantha yunnanensis,** a prostrate type of shrub if ever there was one, probably planted there to make a lovely base effect against the retaining wall, forced to stand upright. It needs only a dunce-cap to be completely appropriate. To the rescue, plant-lovers!—A. G. L.

PEAT MOSS

What kind of soil do you have in your garden? Do you labor with sticky clay? Is it hard, yet fertile adobe? Gravelly or stony? Or are you trying to induce loose sand to hold fertility? Any such soil is a problem in any garden but don't worry with it any longer. You can quickly and easily correct it by mixing granulated peat moss into it. It will make a crumbly loam of it and supply the humus material your soil needs. Don't take halfway measures. There is no danger in using too much peat moss. It cannot possibly burn or rot the roots of plants. —L.B.H.

Lester Rowntree Reads a Book

The last ten years has seen a happy expansion in plant material possibilities for California gardeners and recent introductions of native plants from South Africa, from South America, from Mexico, from the Mediteranean region and from Australia are beginning to be seen in the gardens of up-and-coming plantsmen. Many of these plants have come to us via Golden Gate Park,—others through those few California nurserymen who are will-

ing to sacrifice a little time and space to the trying out of flowers and shrubs which look promising for our gardens.

These new introductions only whet our appetites and we are for more and more. We try to steal a march on the introducers and find out for ourselves what other exotic plants we could and should be growing. To this end we hunt for books on the wild flowers of likely countries,—and find them a bit difficult to obtain. However, a flow of these volumes seems to be beginning and we hope it will keep up.

The most recent addition to the list is **Wild Flowers of Australia,** by Thistle (appropriate name) Y. Harris (Angus & Robertson, Sydney and London, 7/6).

It was a pleasant day which brought this book in my mail. Jobs I should have long been doing were side-tracked while I looked at its two hundred and forty-three colored illustrations, read the descriptions which go with them and made mental notes of these Australian wild flowers which I must get, if and when I find the way to get them.

Thistle Harris is Lecturer in Biological Science at Teachers' College in Sydney. She divides her book into two parts. First comes the colored plates with a non-technical description of each plant, its habitat and season of bloom. Part II contains the botanical key which gives, beside the usual information, detailed notes on the distribution of each genus. Also, there is an interesting introduction in which she discusses the various climatical groupings of Australian plants, which in a way resemble our coastal, redwood and desert floras, though we have no parallel to the "brush" of certain spots on the eastern Australian coast, since our tropical places are dry,—not moist as are these.

The maker of the lovely color pictures is the late Adam Forster. It is a pity that he did not live to see how well his flower paintings have come out in his friend's book.

Lester Rowntree,
Carmel, California.

Gleanings From the Magazines

By Ida Louise Bryant

House & Garden for December comments editorially on the trend toward choosing a city flower to feature during its blooming season and probably as well in its Chamber of Commerce advertising. It seems that Atlanta, perhaps because it has a Peach-tree Avenue, claims the ethereal blossom of the peach, Rochester the lilac, Portland the rose, Reno the bleeding heart (are we being spoofed?) and now the Garden Section of the Kankakee Women's Club, by keeping after the city fathers, has succeeded in getting official endorsement of their city as the "Petunia City". "Two Petunias in every pot," is their slogan. "Manners in the Garden," in the same issue sugar-coats a lot of unpleasant truths in listing the snares and traps to avoid as garden visitors and owners, alike. Incidentally the writer quotes "an eminent garden authority," unnamed, in the dictum that the perfect garden is a Holy Trinity in that three things are essential to make it so: different levels, water, and a green background. Does it apply here?

Better Homes & Gardens for January has an article on pruning that gives the process from A to Z. "Start cutting at the ground line, work upward," it says. The author speaks of the "butcher" method, and the "barber" method, both in far too common use. There is a crying example of the latter method in the mile or more of clipped acacias and shrubbery bordering the Naval Training Station on Rosecrans Boulevard; one needs only to glance across the street where an occasional tree has been left in a natural state, to see how much better Nature does the job, to say nothing of the waste of man power!

"Beauty rules for garden and home are similar," declares the writer of an article on garden planning, and "Laying out your Garden" gives basic recipes for garden designs. More and more gardeners are heeding those golden words of the experts: "Have a Plan."

In **Sunset** for December, specialists on their culture tell about amaryllis and the ten best sweet peas. Prices of garden gadgets advertised in this issue left us groggy; are gardeners and their gift-giving friends more on the sentimental than the practical side?

"Horticulture," the dignified semi-monthly publication of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society tells in "House Plants Which Need Coddling" of plumbago capensis grown as a house plant, "for constant bloom it cannot be surpassed." And the sentence, "It is a rampant grower" speaks volumes. Those of us who have seen it take a space twenty feet across, with arching branches ten feet long, in about no time, would view with apprehension the prospect of being shut up with it in a small apartment. An editorial (this in the Dec. 1st issue) on the value of Vitamin B1 does not commit the writer to any great extent; it says, in effect, yes, and no.

A reader's letter regarding the use of hanging-baskets in city streets brings to mind the charm of the urns and boxes filled with lovely flowers and vines in Balboa Park during the Exposition; those overflowing the blue jars at the entrance to Cabrillo Bridge set the scene for the bright beauty to be enjoyed further along, and the frieze of vines falling in graceful curves from the cornices of some of the not-too-beautiful buildings added something indescribable to the effect. Too costly for every day?

"The Flower Grower" for December devotes seven pages to lists and descriptions of dahlias on the honor roll of the experts in the east, middle-west and Pacific Coast, respectively; the page on gardenia growing presents some practical ideas on the technique.

An article on "American Plants Abroad," by an English writer points out that innumerable of our native plants are treasured by English gardeners and used for displays in their London parks; he asks if, in our search for the largest

zinnias, most double nasturtiums and what not we have lost sight of the lovely things that go begging here because they are common. Are the English guiltless in this respect, we wonder? It seems a well nigh universal failing; Luke spoke of regarding prophets, we remember.

DECEMBER MEETING

A customary event of the San Diego Floral association was the annual December Christmas party at which there assembled a large attendance of members and guests in the Floral Building, Balboa Park.

Wreaths, sprayed decorations, branches of evergreen plants, lighted candles and an illuminated Christmas tree fittingly decorated the room.

Members and friends were invited to bring post cards containing individual messages for Miss Sessions who is ill. Mrs. Greer, president, drew attention to a lovely unique box which had been presented as a container for the cards for Miss Sessions. She commended the Floral Association for their part taken in the tree-planting recently, of an oak tree, in Balboa Park as a token of esteem and merit for Mr. John Morley, retired park superintendent.

Mr. Clifford Tanner, well known rosarian, of Rancho Santa Fe, spoke on how to trim rose bushes. "San Diego," he said, "is a superior spot for roses." Illustrating with potted rose bush specimens, he demonstrated many devices and tricks for successful pruning.

Prune roses the first part of February — ground-hog day — he suggested. But don't forget to take away the old wood at all times of the year—work for newer branches.

Convenient time was given the audience for questions to which Mr. Tanner gave valuable information on his subject. Many interesting samples of plant sprays for Christmas decorations were donated by members and exhibited by Mr. Jerebek.

A drawing of potted plants. by numbers, carried out the Christmas tree traditional custom. Cakes, with Wassail, a much used beverage in England at Christmas, was served.

Problems of the Soil . . . .

By R. R. McLEAN, County Agricultural Commissioner

ANNUAL BLUE-GRASS

Question: I am sending you with this letter specimens of a grass and a weed I find in my lippia lawn. Please tell me what they are and how I can get rid of them. They make the lawn unsightly and drive out the lippia.—Mrs. S.

Answer: The grass specimen was that of annual bluegrass, **Poa annua.** This grass is described by Scott as follows: "At most this variety attains a height of only 3 or 4 inches and then goes to seed. Poa annua will reseed itself several times in a season, even in a lawn that is kept closely mown. It grows in patches and, when in full bloom, gives a white appearance to the turf. There seems to be no real objection to it in lawns except for the fact of being rather difficult to mow." It will be noted that Mr. Scott's observation as to there being no real objection to it applies to grass lawns and not to lippia.

The second specimen submitted was that of common oxalis, **Oxalis californica,** a perennial plant.

There is no satisfactory control of either of these invaders other than to remove them by hand. The blue grass, as you probably have noted, grows in bunches and can rather easily be pulled up provided, of course, there is not too much of it. The oxalis could be killed by a spray of iron sulphate and water, 1½ pounds to the gallon, but undoubtedly this would injure the lippia also. If the oxalis were infesting a grass lawn the iron sulphate solution would be the thing to use, but not on a lippia lawn.

Some success has been reported by those who, as an alternative to uprooting oxalis by hand, have used a pointed stick dipped in sulphuric or nitric acid and thrust it into the crowns of offending weeds.

SPIDERS

Question: The plant I am sending you has been dropping its leaves profusely. First they turn pale and then drop. I recently changed the soil and would like to know if this might not cause the trouble?—Mrs. J.

Answer: The leaves sent were quite heavily infested with minute spiders. They suck out the plant juices of the leaves and the latter turn pale and fall. The remedy is to apply dry sulphur as a dust, where the plants will stand it, or a very light oil spray. Many tender plants are injured by either sulphur or oil sprays, hence care must be used in applying them. In such cases, particularly where the plants are not too large, a heavy and repeated spray of water applied with as much force as practicable will wash most of the spiders off.

WORMS IN GARDEN

Question: Small active green worms have attacked nearly everything in the garden, including geraniums, lantanas, chrysanthemums, etc. I have tried a spray of arsenate of lead but without much success. Will you kindly advise something else to use? —H.L.D.

Answer: Usually these worms attacking garden plants in the fall do not remain long, but if their attack persists you might try a combination derris (rotenone) and pyrethrum spray or dust. This can be obtained from your dealer in insecticides. Another good material to try is cryolite, either as a dust or as a spray. In any event make the application of the insecticide thorough. If the worms are on the undersides of the leaves it might be better to use the spray rather than the dust as with the former it is easier to cover the lower sides of leaves.

ORANGE

Question: Kindly tell me how deep I should plant an orange tree. The tree is balled of course and the place where it was buded is quite prominent. —G.F..S

Answer: The bud, or place where the bud was inserted into the stock, should be four or five inches above the ground surface when the ball

is planted. An allowance should always be made for settling, particularly if the planting is to be made in light soil such as yours undoubtedly is, judging from the address given by you. In other words, after allowing for a little settling the bud union should still be four or five inches above the ground. The bud union will later be entirely absorbed, that is, covered with callus bark and wood growth, as the tree grows.

A word of caution should be given you as to irrigation especially during the period the tree is becoming established. Most citrus trees ate balled in relatively heavy soil. Your soil is much lighter than the ordinary soil in which citrus nursery stock is grown. Therefore, if you are not careful, irrigation water will run through the light soil without penetrating the heavier ball of earth. More young citrus trees have been ruined in your section by lack of attention to this matter than in any other way. When irrigating, always make sure the citrus ball is actually penetrated by the water.

Morley's Oak Tree

(Continued from Page 2)

section of Balboa Park, thence to the present permanent location. He expressed with considerable feeling his deep appreciation and gratitude for this honor which would always be remembered as marking an epoch in his life. He thanked Mrs. Greer and association members present for its inspiration and for their splendid cooperation the years of his professional career in the city of San Diego.

Association members present included Mrs. Ralph Hayward, Master Ralph Hayward, grandson of Mr. Morley who moved the first shovel of dirt, Ralph O. Hayward, Mrs. Rob't. Morrison, W. J. Bishop, Mrs. Lester A. Wright, Miss Alice Halliday, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Shoven, Mrs. John Nuttall, Mrs. John G. Clark, Mrs. Paul Brandstedt, Mrs. Deforest Ward, C. I. Jerabek, LeRoy A. WrightII, Miss Alice Mary Greer, Miss Etta Schwieder, G. Lakeld Smith, Mrs. Harry C. Hayward, Mrs. Ralph B. Trousdale and Dewey Kelly.

Consider the Pool in Winter

By BERTHA M. THOMAS

The time has come when tidy people will be feeling that earthy urge to clean out the lily pool in preparation for the summer showing of heavenly bloom. Whether they do so or not is beside the point so far as the winter aspect is concerned. Let us think now of what it is going to do for us next fall and winter.

First, put in the lily Blue Triumph, a large flowering kind. The size need not be disconcerting in relation to the small pool, because all such plants will accommodate themselves to growing quarters—that is, if it would like to give you a one foot flower, it will produce one only six inches across if it has only a half size container. This flower is a beautiful blue, lasts full seven days and continues well into January.

Gonnere must be in this pool—very double and pure white; also the old standard yellow Marliac which is willing to give color until very late in the year. Robinsoni is good for its rich, red flowers overlaid with yellow, deepening with age. The medium sized leaves of this plant are pretty with their speckling maroon and are suited to the smaller or cramped pools. James Brydon is a general favorite—brilliant rosy-red flowers and bronzy leaves faintly blotched. Venusta is the darkest of the pinks — a very rich and unusual shade.

Now in one corner tuck in the yellow water-poppy which has small and numerous leaves, taking up but little room since it runs along on top of the water. For color in late winter when all lilies are dormant, have a plant of Marsh-marigold with flowers two inches across, golden yellow high above the water. It requires plenty of room in shallow water. The ones available are educated varieties of the species we picked in early spring of the east, the one that ran so luxuriantly along the banks of creeks.

For another winter bloomer get the Water Hawthorn having long narrow leaves floating on the water. The fragrant white blossoms are handsome set with the black stamens.

If you want height or if the plane of water and surrounding area seems to require a few vertical lines take the large, white-flowering arrowhead, **Sagittaria montevidensis** which comes from the neighborhood of the last naval battle of the news sheets. The blue Pickerel-weed, **Pontederia cordata,** gives a strictly erect line coming up out of the water, while its variety—**lancifolia,** is even more pronounced. Don't be disturbed by the term "weed" for it is a beautiful thing and objectionable only to the farmer who wants to grow some other crop in the ground it likes.

The submerged grasses are pretty, but they fill up the water space in a small pond so quickly they may well be questioned. Of course the young, growing fish like them as a playground and they do furnish a nesting place for such microscopic animal life that means so much for the balance of life in the pool. But as being necessary for creating oxygen, no—they are not. All other growing plants will **fill** that want perfectly.

Now in the last corner, you must have that new variety of Water Hyacinth, azurea which reaches out of the water on curving, upright stalks in lovely velvety shades of yellow and blues. Also, don't forget the dainty little Water Violet which takes up so little room and gives so much.

Another winter attraction that should not be overlooked for the pool is the pretty spotted leaves of the small Mexican lily. This is the only lily within my knowledge which keeps its leaves throughout the winter, even in our superfine San Diego climate.

—Bertha M. Thomas

PATRONIZE Our Advertisers

The Winter Garden . . . .

By WALTER BIRCH, Jr.

Happy New Year! All! The warm, dry weather the last two months has been somewhat tough on winter plants, but the rain we will get this month will make all the difference in the world, as practically all plants respond at once to a little natural rainfall. Watering just doesn't seem to have the same effect.

January and February are the boss rose-planting months of the whole season. This is the time of the year when the bushes are completely dormant and may be handled with bare roots. This is by far the best way to handle them. Under the present California laws rose bushes must all be labeled with their name and grade, that is "No. 1 Large," is the best grade, "No. 1½" is the medium size, and "No. 2" the small or cull size. The No. 1 Large grade is by far the preferable one, they grow faster and give you good blooms much more quickly than the smaller sizes, and of course cost a little more, but are worth it. A good combination spray for rose bushes consists of: 1 teaspoon Barfoot Rotenone, 3 ounces Bordelo and one gallon of water. This combination will take care of the various insect pests, mildew and black spot and will not leave any residue on the leaves.

A hint on "die back" from Mr. Bailey, rosarian, when cutting your blooms, make the cut just as close above an eye as possible, this rule also applies when pruning.

Flower Seeds which may be sown in January include: Sweet Alyssum, Snapdragons, Calendulas, Calliopsis, Candytuft, Centaurea, Annual Chrysanthemums, Clarkia, Lupin, Larkspur, Mignonette, Nigella, Poppies, Wild Flower Mixture and Sweet Peas. Bulbs of Amaryllis, Agapanthus, Gladiolus, Liliums and Narcissus.

For February the above list and also Balsam, Begonias, Coreopsis, Gaillardia, Hollyhock, Hunnemannia, Lobelia, Mimulus, Pentstemon, Petunia, Salvia and Stocks. To the bulb list add: Cannas, Tuberose and Tuberous Rooted Begonias—underline the Begonias.

March is really the best month of the year for sowing nearly all varieties of Flower Seeds, the list including: Ageratum, Sweet Alyssum, Arctotis, Amaranthus, Balsam, Brachycome, Calendula, Calliopsis, Candytuft, Centaurea, Clarkia, Annual Chrysanthemum, Early Flowering Cosmos, Double Daisy, Four O'Clock, Godetia, Gomphrena, Gypsophila, Helichrysum, Larkspur, Linum, Lupin, Marigold, Mignonette, Nemesia, Nemophilla, Nigella, Phlox, Scabiosa, Sunflower, Anemone, Aster, Begonia, Celosia, Columbine, Canterbury Bells. Coreopsis, Cyclamen, Dahlia, Gaillardia, Gerbera, Heliotrope, Hunnemannia, Lobelia, Matricaria, Myosotis or Forget-me-not, Pentstemon, Petunia, Salvia, Shasta Daisy, Statice, Sweet William, Verbena, Viola, Wallflower and Zinnia. All Vine and Tree Seeds.

Some people start their Dahlia bulbs this month, but April and May are usually considered much better, as the ground is warmer. The bulbs will start right to work with much less chance of their rotting. Bulbs of Tuberous Rooted Begonias, Gloxinias, Tuberose, Cannas and Gladiolus. More people should plant Tuberous Begonias, they make the finest kind of pot plants, or may be planted in the ground in a shaded situation. Be sure to use plenty of leaf mould no matter which place you plant them.

Vegetable Seeds for January include: Carrots, Turnips, Beets, Swiss Chard, Kale, Mustard Greens, Lettuce, Peas, Spinach and Green Sprouting Broccoli. For February, the above list plus a few string beans provided you have a nice warm spot, the same applying to Cucumbers and Squash.

March is also the big month for planting things in the Vegetable Garden, one may plant: Tomato, Pepper and Eggplant plants, Squash, Cucumbers, Beans, Musk Melon and Watermelon in addition to the varieties mentioned for January and February.

Along about January or March the Snails and Slugs will be getting active, so give them a good dose of Snarol, Bug Geta or other standard brand of prepared bait. These new prepared baits are far superior to the old Calcium Arsenate and Bran mixture, which we used for years just because there was nothing better at that time. For Sow Bugs use a special Sow Bug Control, you will have more dead Sow Bugs.

January, February and early March are the best months of the year for planting any Deciduous Fruit Trees such as Peaches, Pears, Plums, Apples, Apricots, Persimmons, etc., also Berry Plants, Grapes, Rhubarb Roots, Horseradish roots, etc.

By all means use plenty of animal manure in your garden. You may now obtain Weedless Steer Manure packed in clean paper bags and absolutely free of weed seeds and trash of all kinds, as it is taken from animals that are fed cotton seed hulls and meal which is all kept on concrete floors. This manure also makes the finest kind of mulch and contains a plentiful supply of plant food.

Vitamin B1 Report

(Continued from Page 3)

was helpful to root shock incident to transplanting.

It has been claimed that seed can be germinated faster and that the resulting plants will be stronger and of more rapid growth under Vitamin B1 treatment. In this garden a flat of godetia was started November 22 and treated. The young plants were up November 24 and were ¾-inch in height by the end of the fourth day. A check flat required six days for germination and were slower in growth. It would appear from this that the Vitamin is a strong activant in the matter of germination.

I have found it convenient to keep a chart for recording data involving a large number of varieties

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being tested at the same time. This records the name of the variety and number of plants treated. Opposite is entered the planned dates for treatment in pencil. As each date comes around, the planned date is inked in. When each variety receives its intermediate watering, the date is check marked. Space is available for observation notes.

This fascinating work can be carried on by anyone with a medicine dropper, a phial for the stock solution and a gallon measuring vessel. Directions are usually full and simple.—A. H. Fetter.

Flower Arrangement

(Continued from Page 1

Harry, William Cleaver — The art of floral designing—text-book in the arrangement of flowers and floral decoration as practised in retail floristry. 1930.

Preininger, Margaret—Japanese flower arrangement for modern homes. 1936.

Oriental symbolism is used as a background to add considerable understanding of what makes an attractive and interesting arrangement of flowers for the home. Many large and lovely illustrations.

Spry, Mrs. Constance—Flowers in house and garden. 1937.

First part of the book contains ten chapters divided into months with suggestions on flowers to grow and how to use flowers in season. Part two is devoted to backgrounds, vases and details of arrangement with one chapter entirely on Christmas decorations.

Biddle, Dorothy — How to arrange flowers. 1935.

The author, editor of Garden Digest, has applied the simple art principles that are the basis of all good flower arrangements and has added drawings as a new and helpful feature.

—Cornelia D. Plaister.

S. D. Floral Association meeting held third Tuesday of each month at Floral Bldg., Balboa Park, 7:30 p. m.

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